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NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

The 14th session of the Washington legislature has closed.

Two Portland petty thieves who stole perfume were detected by the odor of their loot.

The last of Newfoundland's contingent of 1000 men has reached England to enter the ranks of the British forces.

Spies are becoming so active in France that stringent measures are being taken against all foreign residents.

Shipment of American-made cannon for the Russian forces is delayed by a longshoremen's strike at Vancouver, B. C.

Rector of Trinity church, one of the wealthiest in the country, declares that divorce was "the shameful luxury of the rich and well-to-do."

Girl applicants as stenographers in municipal civil service of Portland must submit to a heart test to determine their physical condition.

The German government has made a satisfactory explanation to the United States for the sinking of the bark William P. Frye in South Atlantic waters January 28.

"The Turks are dismounting the guns defending Constantinople. The intention being that in case of defeat the allies should regard Constantinople as an undefended town," says the Times Bucharest correspondent.

Arrangements are said to have been completed between Russia and Germany for the exchange of 200,000 war prisoners. The exchange, it is reported, will be made by way of Stockholm harbor, beginning in April.

The police department of Washington, D. C., have been ordered to place strict guard over the residences of British, Russian, Turkish, German, French and Austrian ambassadors, as threatening letters have been received by them.

Reports from Tenedos say that the Turkish artillery grows weaker daily, and that the last bombardment by the allied warships badly damaged the forts at Chanak Kalesi. Two big cruisers spent the night in the straits protecting the vessels engaged in mine sweeping.

Dispatches from Rome indicate that the German ambassador, Prince von Buelow, has renewed his negotiations with the Italian government with the object of securing the continued neutrality of that country in return for territorial concessions in Austria. Austria, however, is said to be opposed to making any such concessions as would satisfy Italy.

The Paris Balkan agency has received the following dispatch from Sofia: "Advices received here from Constantinople say that Mehmed Burhan Eddin Effendi, favorite son of the ex-Sultan Abdul Hamid, has been found strangled in his bedroom. Despite the reserve of the Turkish police, it has been confirmed that the prince was killed by political enemies."

Russians report capture of many German supplies in North Poland.

The United States has dispatched two additional battleships to Vera Cruz.

French troops advancing on Germans in Belgium find the foes in strong positions, and both floods and deep snows are encountered.

The University of Toronto is figuring on closing several weeks earlier than usual to allow its students to enlist in the army.

Greece has formed a new cabinet, but King Constantine declares that unless it stands neutral, he will cause it to be dissolved.

It is reported that France has 22 troop ships enroute to the Dardanelles apparently to aid in land operations should Constantinople fall.

John K. Gaither, who has been postmaster of La Center, Wash., for 41 years, will retire from the service as soon as Patrick M. Kanes, recently appointed, can file his bond and receive his commission. Mr. Gaither, who is 76 years old, came from Indiana in 1873, and the following year became postmaster. He has missed only one term of office.

Mrs. E. A. Pierce, aged 72, of Welches, Or., killed a big black bear with a garden hoe when the bear attacked her Saturday at her little cabin on the south slope of Mount Hope. The bear had chased E. A. Hutchinson from a neighboring cabin and advanced on Mrs. Pierce where she was hoeing her garden. While Mr. Hutchinson ran for aid, Mrs. Pierce slew Bruin with the only weapon at hand, the hoe.

American Citizen Slain by Zapata in Mexico City

Washington, D. C. — Encouraging advices telling of the relief of the food famine in Mexico City through the evacuation of the capital by the forces of General Obregon, the Carranza commander, were beclouded Saturday by the news that on the entry of the Zapata troops, John B. McManus, an American citizen, was murdered—shot down in his home, the door of which had been sealed with the coat of arms of the United States, and over which flew the Stars and Stripes.

Instant demand was made by the Brazilian minister on behalf of the United States government for the punishment of those guilty of the crime.

After a conference between President Wilson and his cabinet, Secretary Bryan telegraphed the Brazilian minister approving of the action he had taken and adding a demand for reparation to the family of the victim. The minister was instructed to insist on the early punishment of the offenders and to impress on the post commander at Mexico City—General Salazar—the seriousness with which the American government viewed the occurrence. The general—who is not related to the independent chief who has been conducting a revolutionary movement in Northern Mexico since escape from American custody last year—promised that the demands of the United States would be met promptly.

British Cruiser Is Sunk by German Torpedo

London—The admiralty announces the loss of the auxiliary cruiser Bayano while the vessel was engaged in patrol duty. In its statement of the disaster, the admiralty says:

"On March 11 wreckage of the Bayano and bodies were discovered, and circumstances point to her having been sunk by an enemy torpedo.

"Eight officers and 18 men were rescued, but it is feared the remainder of the crew were lost.

"The captain of the Belfast steamer Castlereagh reports passing Thursday morning a quantity of wreckage and dead bodies floating in life belts. He attempted to search for possible survivors, but was prevented by the presence of an enemy submarine, which gave chase for 20 minutes."

The Bayano was a comparatively new steamer. She was built at Glasgow in 1913 and was owned by Elder & Fryffes before she was taken over by the British government and fitted out as an auxiliary cruiser.

The Bayano was of 3500 tons displacement and 416 feet long.

Mrs. John D. Rocketteller Dies at Country Home

Tarrytown, N. Y.—Mrs. John D. Rocketteller, wife of the richest man in the world, died suddenly Friday in her 76th year at the Rocketteller country home in Pocantico Hills. She had been an invalid for a year, but during the last few months her health had so improved that the rapid turn for the worse which her illness took was not expected by her family.

For this reason it happened that the only relative at her bedside when she died at 10:20 a. m. was her sister, Miss Lucy M. Spelman.

Her husband and her son, John D. Rocketteller, Jr., were at Ormond, Fla., where they went—Mr. Rocketteller, Sr., on February 28 and his son last Friday, accompanied by his wife—believing that Mrs. Rocketteller was growing better. Informed over the long-distance telephone early in the day of the critical change in her condition, they left at once for Jacksonville, where arrangements were quickly made for a special train to bring them to New York. They were expected to arrive here some time Sunday night.

Mrs. E. Parmalee Prentice, one of Mrs. Rocketteller's two daughters, was summoned from New York, but failed to arrive before her mother died. The other daughter, Mrs. Harold Fowler McCormick, of Chicago, is in Switzerland, recuperating from an illness. Her husband was about to sail to join her, but cancelled his passage and came here at once.

125 Merchantmen Sunk.

Amsterdam—The Mittag Zeitung, of Berlin, has published a list of merchantmen said to have been destroyed by the German navy since the beginning of the war. According to it German vessels have sunk 111 steamers with a total tonnage of 400,000; four auxiliary cruisers with a total tonnage of 32,500; one sailing vessel, one schooner, eight mine sweepers and one troop transport.

"Hobo King" Gets \$250,000.

Los Angeles—James Eads How, "millionaire hobo king," inherited property here worth \$125,000 and the income from a trust fund of equal size. The bequest is in the will of his mother, filed here dividing her estate between her sons. A "hobo," according to How, is a man who wants to work and cannot get it.

Saving of Over Half Million Dollars Shown

Salem—Notwithstanding the high cost of living and the increasing demands of the state because of growing population and wealth, the recent legislature made a net saving in appropriations of the preceding one of \$644,560.05, according to a summary of Secretary of State Olcott.

The figures show a total saving under existing laws for the biennium of 1915 and 1916 over the biennium of 1913 and 1914 of \$881,313.41. For 1913 and 1914 the appropriations by the legislature netted \$4,610,175.75, and for 1915 and 1916 \$3,965,615.70. The total appropriations under existing laws for 1913 and 1914 were \$6,691,962.08, and for 1915 and 1916 \$6,310,648.67.

Another important feature of the saving is that several laws passed at the session of 1913 provided for appropriations for only one year, notably the workmen's compensation act and the act creating the state highway fund. The appropriations for these departments for the current biennium for that reason total about \$300,000 more.

While the saving over the former biennium is somewhat less than leaders of the recent house and senate figured it would be, members of the session in speaking of it express gratification and declare that the campaign pledges of the members for economy have been kept.

J. E. Allison, bookkeeper for the

Highway May Open to Astoria by July Fourth

Rainier—Work on the Columbia Highway through Columbia county will be resumed before the end of the month. Major Bowley, state highway engineer, and a party of his associates, together with a number of Rainier citizens, walked over that portion of the incomplete highway between Rainier and Goble and came to the conclusion that by beginning work as soon as the men and material can be assembled it will be possible to have the road open for traffic all the way from Portland to Astoria before July 4.

The state highway engineer will have available this spring about \$50,000 of the Columbia county road fund for use on the highway that was graded last year and that is unfinished. This he believes will go far toward completing the road through this county.

The party that hiked over the Rainier-Goble link found that the graded roadway had stood the winter well. At a few points the hillside had slid down perceptibly and covered a portion of the graded surface. The engineers figured that these obstacles can be removed with little difficulty or expense. They had expected such behavior by nature.

One important piece of work that needs to be done between Rainier and Goble is at Prospect Point, where the highway must be carried through a solid body of rock about 1600 feet long. Part of the necessary blasting has been done. Major Bowley estimates that it will require less than \$5000 to do the rest of the work on the strip of highway.

The roadway for the entire distance covered by the party is fully 24 feet wide, in accordance with contract specifications. All the fills and all the culverts in the Rainier-Goble link have been put in place. As the highway commission never was flush with money on the Columbia county job, the work is not finished with the same nicety as in Multnomah county, but it is every bit as substantial and serviceable. The scenic advantages are equal to those of the highway through Multnomah county, with the exception that there are not so many picturesque waterfalls.

Autos Oust Horses From State Fair Program

Salem—At a meeting the State Fair board decided to discontinue after 1915 the classic futurity races at the State Fair. The reason for the decision is that the breeding of fast horses in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest is on the wane since the automobile has come into general use.

The board named opening day, September 27, as children's day. Wednesday will be Salem day; Thursday, Portland day; Friday, Press and Oregon Manufacturers' day, and Saturday, Shriners' day. Nothing was arranged for Tuesday.

For the six days of racing the board will offer a card of 18 events with cash prizes of \$16,400. The big days of the fair from the racing standpoint will be Salem day and Portland day. There will be a 3-year-old pace, a futurity event, with a purse of \$1500, Salem day. Purses for this race will go to the winners of the best two in three heats. The 2:08 pace, for a \$2000 purse, also will be run Wednesday. It will be run in five heats. The 2:30 trot is scheduled for Salem day.

The board has allotted the 2:12 trot, best three in five heats, and has hung up a purse of \$2000 for the winners for Portland day. The 2:20 pace for a \$600 purse and the 2:15 pace for a \$700 purse, also will be run Thursday.

Tuesday's card will include the 3-year-old trot, futurity, for a \$2000 purse. All races are early-closing events excepting the futurities.

Shelter Shed and Spur Asked.

Salem—L. R. Gamble, in a complaint filed with the State Railroad commission has asked that the Southern Pacific Company be compelled to provide a shelter shed and spur track at Linn station on the Woodburn-Springfield branch.

Legislator Takes New Job.

Salem—Governor Withycombe has accepted the resignation of Frank Davey as representative in the legislature from Harney county. Mr. Davey has been appointed bookkeeper at the penitentiary.

German Submarines Sink Three British Freighters

London—During the early hours of Wednesday morning German submarines made their presence known at three widely separated points on the British coasts, and, it is said officially, without giving warning to their crews, sank three British merchant steamers.

In one case, that of the steamer Tangistan, which was torpedoed off Scarborough, in the North Sea, 37 men of her crew of 38 are missing. Only one man from the vessel was picked up, he by a passing ship. The attack which sent the Tangistan to the bottom was made half an hour after midnight.

At 6 o'clock in the morning another submarine sank the steamer Blackwood, off Hastings, in the English Channel, while a third submarine sank the steamer Princess Victoria off Liverpool at a quarter past 9 o'clock.

The news of the latest exploits of the German submarines came just as the British public was congratulating itself that the threatened German sea blockade had been a failure.

In announcing the disasters the admiralty gave out the following:

"The steamer Tangistan was sunk by a German off Scarborough at 12:30 o'clock the morning of March 10. Only one man of her crew of 38 men was saved.

"The steamer Blackwood was sunk by a submarine without warning off Hastings at 6 o'clock the morning of March 10. Her crew of 17 was saved.

"The steamer Princess Victoria, of Glasgow, was sunk without warning by a German submarine at 9:15 o'clock the morning of March 10 off Liverpool. Her crew of 34 was saved."

The official report announcing the torpedoing of the British steamers Tangistan, Blackwood and Princess Victoria—the two former cargo boats and the latter once a coastwise passenger ship—indicates that German submarines are again raiding at widely separated points around the British Isles. As all the boats were torpedoed in a period of less than nine hours it would seem probable that all three were sunk by different underwater boats.

Scarborough, off which port the Tangistan was sunk, is on the North Sea, in Yorkshire; Hastings is on the English Channel, in Sussex, and Liverpool is on the Irish Sea.

The Tangistan, the largest of the sunken vessels, was of 2393 tons displacement. She was built in 1906 and was owned by the Strick line, of Swansea. The Blackwood was built in 1907 and belonged to the Tyneside line, of North Shields. She was a 741-ton vessel.

The Princess Victoria was owned by M. Langlands & Sons, of Glasgow.

U. S. Sends Two War- ships to Mexican Coast

Washington, D. C.—American citizens here again been warned to leave Mexico City, in view of the critical situation that has arisen there. Secretary Bryan announced that transportation facilities would be sought for as many as desired to leave.

The battleship Georgia and the armored cruiser Washington were ordered by Secretary Daniels, after conferences with President Wilson, to proceed at once to Vera Cruz.

Consular messages from Vera Cruz said it was reported there that the evacuation of Mexico City began Wednesday night.

Enrique C. Llorente, Washington representative of General Villa, received a message saying the Zapatista forces occupied Mexico City immediately on the evacuation by Obregon's troops.

Word came from American Consul Silliman that at a personal interview with General Carranza he has delivered to the latter the formal note from the United States government, demanding an improvement in conditions for foreigners in the territory under his control.

Carranza promised a written reply soon, but said orally that General Obregon had not prevented food supplies from reaching the City of Mexico, nor had he sent the available supplies from the capital.

These were the principal developments in the Mexican situation, the importance of which overshadowed in official Washington interest in the European war.

Although the contents of the American note to Carranza were not revealed, its emphatic tone impressed members of the diplomatic corps that serious consequences would ensue if Carranza failed to heed the representations made to him.

American Bark Is Seized.

Galveston—The American bark Pass of Balmaha, from New York to Bremen, carrying 6000 bales of cotton, has been seized by a British cruiser and taken to Kirkwall, England, according to private reports to B. E. Harris, member of a cotton concern which chartered the bark. In announcing news of the seizure, Mr. Harris said the bark lately had been chartered from British to American registry and sailed from New York January 28.

EXPECT KAISER TO REPUDIATE ACT

Immediate Settlement for Sinking Frye Looked For.

National Views in Accord as U. S. and Berlin Agree on Question of Food Shipments.

Washington, D. C.—Germany probably will repudiate the action of the captain of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich in sinking the American ship, William P. Frye, and make reparation for the loss of the vessel and cargo, in the opinion of German officials here.

Inasmuch as the United States and Germany are in accordance on the question of shipping foodstuffs from a neutral country to civilians in belligerent territory, no issue is expected to be raised by Germany over the right of the cargo to be sent to its destination without interruption.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, after a visit to the State department, indicated that he believed the case would be settled without much difficulty. He told Counsellor Lansing what the captain of the Prinz Eitel had told Captain Boy-Ed, the naval attaché of the German embassy, as to the sinking of the American ship, but the ambassador reserved his opinion on the action of the commander, saying he had no instructions from his government.

Captain Thierichens, of the Prinz Eitel, informed Captain Boy-Ed that his only guide while at sea and for months out of communication with his government was the declaration of London. This would permit the destruction of a neutral prize if carrying a cargo more than half of which could be proved to be contraband, provided it was impossible to take the vessel to a home port without endangering the captor warship.

Aviator Lincoln Beachey Plunges to Death in Bay

San Francisco—The spectacular career of Lincoln Beachey, one of the most daring of American aviators, was ended Sunday when he fell to his death at the Panama-Pacific exposition in plain sight of thousands of spectators.

Beachey was attempting his second flight of the day at 3:45 p. m. when the fatal accident occurred. Having previously electrified the crowd with a series of aerial somersaults, the intrepid aviator sought to add an additional thrill by making one of the sensational perpendicular drops which featured his flights. The accident was attributed to the fact that Beachey entrusted his life for the first time to a new monoplane and an exceptionally large crowd was attracted to see whether he would attempt the same breath-taking stunts in the new machine that had made him and his trim little biplane famous.

On the first flight of the day everything worked properly and all the familiar evolutions were indulged in with the exception of the perpendicular drop. This Beachey had saved for the final climax and this, too, proved too much for the fabric of the monoplane.

The machine was at an altitude of about 3000 feet when Beachey shut off his power. For several hundred feet the machine dropped head on for the earth and then the aviator grasped his control levers to adjust the planes for the graceful descent which characterized his previous flights.

At this instant the wings crumpled like a collapsed umbrella and the aeroplane, turning over and over in its fall, plunged into San Francisco bay, narrowly missing a vessel lying at the government transport docks.

Relief Sent to Palestine.

Philadelphia—Loaded with food and clothing contributed toward the relief of the needy of the Holy Land and supplies for the United States battleships North Carolina and Tennessee, now in the Mediterranean, the United States collier Vulcan sailed from this port Monday for Jaffa, Palestine. The relief cargo represents an expenditure of \$150,000 by the American Jewish relief committee and its principal constituent is flour. L. H. Levin, of Baltimore, and E. W. L. Epstein, of New York, sailed on the vessel and will direct the distribution of the food at Jaffa.

General Pau Praises Foe.

Berlin—The following was given out by the Overseas News agency: "At a reception in Bucharest to General Pau, the French commander, during his recent visit to Roumania, the general said: 'He who has not seen a German army cannot imagine it. It is a host of heroes, unique in history.'"